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**WANTED**

**ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS**

YOUR HELP IN

LOCATING

MARIJUANA

GROWN

IN ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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Contact: Illinois State Police  
Springfield, Illinois 62718

**Toll Free**

**800-247-7684**

# **Marijuana is the most commonly used illicit drug in the United States**

With high grade sinsemilla marijuana selling for as much as \$1,300-\$8,000\* per pound, the profits from this illegal activity can range into the millions of dollars and have a severe impact on the economy of our country.

These illicit growing operations are occurring throughout the country.



The Illinois State Police is working to decrease this unlawful cultivation of cannabis. Your assistance is needed to help stop illicit growing of marijuana in our state.



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\* Source: DEA, Intelligence Division  
March 1997, Cannabis Report

# **Marijuana cultivation may occur outdoors or indoors**



Illinois contains vast and uninhabited lands with many areas of rich, fertile soil and a climate that provides the necessary weather conditions for the illicit growing of marijuana.

Seasonal marijuana growing operations have been conducted on both private and public lands. Many individuals grow their illegal crop on isolated publicly owned lands with limited access in an attempt to lessen the likelihood of detection.

Growers may also access privately owned land and cultivate marijuana in corn fields or with other legitimate crops.





Some individuals and/or groups prefer to grow marijuana in a green house or hot house where year-round harvests are possible.

The Illinois State Police, in cooperation with federal and local law enforcement agencies, devote continuous efforts to identify individuals, organizations and co-ops engaged in marijuana cultivation. Your law enforcement community wants to eliminate the growing of this illegal and dangerous drug, but we need your help.



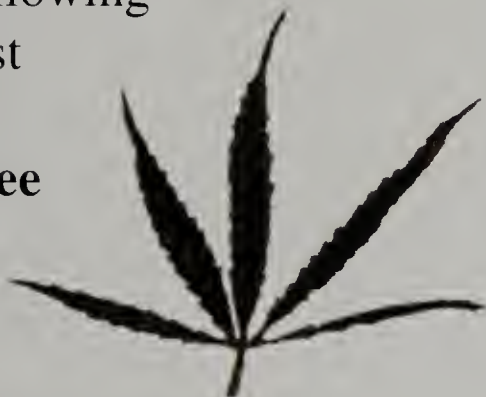
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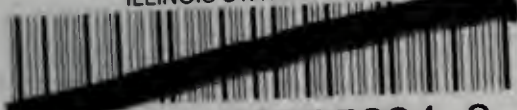
## What can the citizen do to help?

There are many things which may indicate marijuana is being grown in your area. If you notice any of the items listed on the following page, call your nearest Illinois State Police District or **call toll free at 1-800-247-7684.**

You do not have to provide your name.



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## Look for these signs. . .

they may  
indicate  
the illegal  
growing of  
marijuana



- 1. The erection of tents** or the utilization of camper trailers or other recreational vehicles on wooded property with no evidence of recreational activities.
  - 2. A pattern of vehicular traffic** or a particular vehicle seen in the same isolated area on a regular basis.
  - 3. An unusual amount of vehicular traffic** (especially at night) carrying unknown individuals in and out of an area.
  - 4. The building of a large greenhouse** or a tin barn on property where these structures would not normally be utilized. (Example: On very heavily wooded land where there are no animals to feed.)
  - 5. Large purchases by individuals** of fertilizer, garden hoses, plastic PVC pipe, chicken wire, long 2 x 2 lumber, different sized pots (utilized for different stages of growing plants), machetes, camouflage netting, camouflage clothing, varied sizes of step ladders
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(up to 18 to 20 feet) usually painted green and brown, large trash bags, lanterns, portable heaters (such as kerosene heaters), extension cords, heat lamps and fans.

- 6. Individuals purchasing wooded lands** and displaying a lot of POSTED and KEEP OUT signs (high fences, heavy chains and locks on gates).
- 7. The use of guard dogs** and alarm systems on property in the country—especially in certain areas of the property. (Example: Dogs and/or alarms around tin barn or building in an isolated area of the property.)
- 8. Unusual structure** located in remote forested areas, with buckets, garden tools, fertilizer bags, etc.
- 9. Signs of cultivation/soil disturbance** in unlikely areas.

**You are the best judge** of what may be unusual or suspicious about property that is possibly being utilized for growing marijuana.

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# MARIJUANA GROWERS CAN BE DANGEROUS!

*Leave investigations to  
Law Enforcement Officers*

## **DOs and DON'Ts**

Upon discovery of a marijuana garden:

**DO** your best to know your exact location by use of existing landmarks. This will be helpful when relating the location of the garden to law enforcement authorities.

**DO** make note of any vehicles or persons in or around the area.

**DO** exit the area on the same route you entered.

**DO** notify law enforcement authorities immediately.

**DO** keep this information to yourself after notifying the proper authority.

**DO** HELP US.

**DON'T** enter a garden area, or go any closer than is necessary to identify the plant(s) as being marijuana.

**DON'T** look around the areas for additional plants or garden sites.

**DON'T** take a sample plant or segment of a plant with you.

**DON'T** leave any unnecessary sign of your presence in the area.

**DON'T** return to the area unless accompanied by law enforcement authorities.

Contact your nearest Illinois State Police District immediately, or call toll free:

**1-800-247-7684**

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